

A METHOD FOR ROUTING HTTP AND FTP SERVICES
ACROSS HETEROGENEOUS NETWORKS

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

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10 A method and system for routing data across
heterogeneous networks. In one embodiment, a
heterogeneous network comprises a specialized in-band
network that is privately accessible within the
heterogeneous network, as well as an out-of-band
network that is coupled to the in-band network by a
switching platform. A client on the out-of-band
network is configured to transmit a request for server
data to the switching platform. The request is
15 formatted according to the protocol of the out-of-band
network and may take the form of a uniform resource
locator (URL). The switching platform is configured to
recognize the request as one which is directed to a
server on the in-band network. The switching platform
20 parses the request to determine the requested data and
reformats this information as a new request that is
transmitted to the server according to the protocol of
the in-band network. The server provides data
responsive to the new request, which is transmitted
25 back to the switching platform according to the
protocol of the in-band network. The switching
platform then reformats the responsive data according
to the protocol of the out-of-band network and
transmits it to the client. The switching platform is
30 separate from the default gateway and proxy servers.